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BASIC SPEECH

*Garrick*

(There will be a "local" or "news item" introduction, depending on site of speech and the headlines.)

All across America I am bringing the message of hope that I want to share with you today.

It is based on the values of family, work, neighborhood, peace and freedom that are at the heart of the American dream.

Jimmy Carter would have us believe that dream is over or at least in need of change.

This election concerns what Jimmy Carter has done to the American people and what he would continue to do if ~~we~~ <sup>WE ARE</sup> given four more years of disaster.

Because of his failures we face an unprecedented situation:

• For the first time in the history of our country we face three grave crises at the same time, each one of which is capable of destroying us: our economy is deteriorating, our energy needs are not being met and our military preparedness has been weakened to the point of immediate danger.

The Carter record is a litany of despair, of broken promises, of sacred trusts abandoned and forgotten.

Eight million out of work. Inflation running at 18 percent in the first quarter of 1980. Black unemployment at about 14 percent, higher than any single year since the government began keeping separate statistics. Four straight major deficits run up by Carter and his friends in Congress. The highest interest rates since the Civil War -- reaching at times close to 20 percent -- lately down to more than 11 percent but now going up again -- productivity falling for six straight quarters among the most productive people in history.

He promised he would not increase taxes for the low and middle income people -- the workers of America. Then he imposed on American families the largest single tax increase in history.

His answer to all of this misery?

He tries to tell us that we are "only" in a recession, not a depression, as if definitions -- words -- relieve our suffering.

Let it show on the record that when the American people cried out for economic help, Jimmy Carter took refuge behind a dictionary. Well if it's a definition he wants, I'll give him one. A recession is when your neighbor loses his job. A depression is when you lose yours. Recovery is when Jimmy Carter loses his.

I have talked with unemployed workers all across this country. I have heard their views on what Jimmy Carter has done to them and their families.

They aren't interested in semantic quibbles. They are out of work and they know who put them out of work. And they know the difference between a recession and a depression.

Let Mr. Carter go to their homes, look their children in the eye and argue with them that it is 'only' a recession that put dad or mom out of work.

Let him go to the unemployment lines and lecture those workers who have been betrayed on what is the proper definition for their widespread economic misery.

Human tragedy, human misery, the crushing of the human spirit. They do not need defining -- they need action.

And it is action, in the form of jobs, lower taxes, and an expanded economy that -- as President -- I intend to provide.

Call this human tragedy whatever you want. Whatever it is, it is Jimmy Carter's. He caused it, He tolerates it, And he is going to answer to the American people for it.

In 1976 he said he would never use unemployment as an economic tool to fight inflation. In 1980 he called for an increase in unemployment -- to fight inflation.

In 1976 he said he would bring unemployment and inflation down to 3 percent.

Who can believe him? Unemployment is now around 8 percent, inflation is 12½.

In 1976, he ran as a candidate on the slogan: "I'll never lie to you."

After hearing that line about 20 times I was reminded of Ralph Waldo Emerson's line: "The louder he talked of his honor, the faster we counted our spoons."

More than three years after he became President, he finally came up with what he calls a new economic program. It is his 5th new economic program in 3 1/2 years. He talks as if someone else has been in charge these past few years. With two months to go until the election he rides to the rescue now with a crazy-quilt of obvious election-year promises which he'll ask Congress for -- next year. After three years of neglect, the misery, of unemployment, inflation, high taxes, dwindling earning power and inability to save -- after all this, American workers have now been discovered by this administration.

Well it won't work. It is cynical. It is political. And it is too late. The damage is done and every American family knows who did it.

You usually won't find me quoting Senator Ted Kennedy -- but in this case I'm willing to make an exception.

Senator Kennedy has remarked that the chief characteristic of Jimmy Carter is that he is always being surprised.

And the Senator is right.

Jimmy Carter has been surprised to discover his policies have led to inflation.

He is surprised that fighting inflation by unemploying millions is unpopular. And destructive of family values.

He was surprised by the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan.

He was surprised to discover that cancelling the B-1 bomber, postponing or delaying the MX missile and cruise missile and Trident submarine programs and stopping production of the neutron weapon would be destructive to our military strength.

He is going to get one more big surprise. On November 4th.

I look forward to meeting Mr. Carter in debate, confronting him with the whole sorry record of his administration -- the record he prefers not to mention. If he ever finally agrees to the kind of first debate the American people want -- which I'm beginning to doubt -- he'll answer to them and to me.

This country needs a new administration, with a renewed dedication to the dream of America -- an administration that will give that dream new life and make America great again!

6 Sept

Loanne

This is the stock  
speech.

rm garrick